

the heads of employees like Democles Sword is going to be scrapped ?

[English]

SHRI MALLIKARJUN : Sir, there is no question of deleting Rule 14(ii) from the Railway Rules.

SHRI RAM NAIK : Some time back the Hon. Minister had said that there were 409 employees who had to be reinstated. (Interruptions)

SHRI MALLIKARJUN : The figure is 404 and not 409.

SHRI RAM NAIK : Whatever the figure may be, some of them have expired and some of them have reached the superannuation age. Just because they have died, the problems of their families will not be over; and just because superannuation age has been reached, the problem of an employee will not be over. When you reconsider all these points, I would like to know whether you will sympathetically take know consideration the cases of those employees who have died or reached the age of superannuation.

SHRI MALLIKARJUN : Sir, when a final decision takes place, it is obligatory to take care of those who have died as also of those who have reached the age of superannuation. It has to be seen, what type of *modus operandi* has to be created for them.

[Translation]

PER CAPITA POWER CONSUMPTION IN BIHAR

*208. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA : Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the comparative per capita power consumption in the country, North Bihar, Chhota Nagpur and in the rest of Bihar during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) the steps being taken to bring North Bihar at par with the whole State of Bihar and also with the whole country in regard to the consumption of power;

(c) whether power is not being supplied to Madhubani and Darbhanga districts from Kanti Power Plant; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps taken or proposed to be taken for adequate power supply in both the districts ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI) : (a) to (d) : A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) The requisite information is given below :—

Region	Per Capita Consumption (Kwh)		
	1985-86	1986-87	1987-88
North Bihar	17.47	19.65	23.36
South Bihar	53.47	59.57	70.39
Chhota Nagpur	287.61	288.04	297.82
Bihar as a whole	94.08	94.85	101.20
India as a whole	177.98	191.75	203.02

(b) The per capita consumption of power in a State/Region depends mainly upon the extent of rural electrification, energisation of agricultural pumpsets, industrialisation, the type of industries and urbanisation.

(c) and (d) : Distribution of power in a State/Region is being undertaken and regulated by the State Electricity Board. It depends upon the demand and availability of power, the infrastructural facilities created by the State Electricity Board. Power is fed into the State grid from various generating stations and gets distributed.

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA : Mr. Speaker Sir, the statement laid by the Hon. Minister on the Table of the House in reply to my question is very important. The per capita power consumption in Bihar is almost half as compared to the national average and the per capita power consumption is just one tenth in North Bihar compared to rest of the country. These figures include power consumption by three heavy industries located in that area i.e., Barauni Thermal Power Plant, Fertiliser Plant and the Oil Refinery. Even then the per capita power consumption is just one tenth of the entire country. Mr. Speaker Sir, it is because of these things that separatist tendencies raise their ugly head. I had asked in parts (b) and (c) of the question as to what steps are being taken to bring North Bihar at par with whole of the State of Bihar and also with the whole country in regard to the consumption of power and whether power is not being supplied to Madhubani and Darbhanga districts from Kanti Power Plant ? The Hon. Minister has not replied to it.

SHRI KALP NATH RAI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the per capita power consumption is the lowest in Bihar. I would like to point out here that per capita consumption is more, where there is urbanisation.... (Interruptions). The power consumption is more, where there is urbanisation, industrialisation and rural electrification.... (Interruptions). The plant load factor is lowest in Bihar. It is just 25 per cent of

the installed capacity which is 1454. Transmission and distribution losses are the highest there. The work on the transmission line which has been approved in the beginning of the Five Year Plan has not even started yet. The transmission line must be laid down so that power is transmitted from one place to other. If it is not done it is the responsibility of the Bihar Government and not of the Centre.

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA : Mr. Speaker Sir, he has again evaded the reply. My question was whether Kanti Power Plant is supplying power to Madhubani and Darbhanga. But the reply has not come.... (Interruptions) .

SHRI KALP NATH RAI : I have told him that.... (Interruptions).

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : First laugh and then reply.

SHRI KALP NATH RAI : That I will do when I reply to your question. He has asked why adequate power is not being supplied. I have said that the Bihar Government has not completed work so far of the transmission lines approved during the Five Year Plans.... (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : Sir, why should the Minister answer a question which has not been asked ?....

(Interruptions).

[Translation]

SHRI KALP NATH RAI : Sir, I am giving correct reply. They do not follow the subject themselves.... (Interruptions)

SHRI ANNA JOSHI : If we do not understand, please make us understand....

(Interruptions)

SHRI KALP NATH RAI : I can't make you understand. I have said that the transmission line from Kanti or Bihar Sharif or Fatha to Khagha has not been laid down so far.

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA : He has not replied to the earlier question.

MR. SPEAKER : He has replied to it by saying that the transmission line has not been laid down.

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA : Muzaffarpur, Darbhanga and Madhubani are border districts and Kanti Power Plant is adjacent to them.

SHRI KALP NATH RAI : The distribution of power is State Government's responsibility. The State Government is also aware about the Kanti Power Plant....

(Interruptions)

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA : OK, I have lost. Now I would ask another supplementary. Would the Hon. Minister kindly tell where Kanti Power Plant and Muzaffarpur are located on the Indian map ?

SHRI KALP NATH RAI : Kanti Power Plant is in North Bihar and Muzaffarpur is also in North Bihar.. *(Interruptions)*.

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : He has passed. You give him ten out of ten marks.

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA : North Bihar is also in Bihar. He said that in Bihar power distribution.....

MR. SPEAKER : Please do not repeat.

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA : I had asked as to what steps are being taken to bring both North Bihar and the whole of Bihar at par with the whole country. He is a Union Minister for Power. When we have Hydro-Electric Power Boards and Thermal Power Corporations throughout the country what is the reason that power consumption is as low as one tenth of national average in North Bihar. What steps have been taken to augment it ? The letter which I got from the Central Government in way back 1974 says that we do not have the consumption potential

[English]

We do not have market for such huge block of power.

[Translation]

I am quoting from that letter. That is the reason why Kosi dam in Barah region has not been taken up for construction. Is Bhutan still ready to share the hydro electricity generated there. That is not in the hands of the Bihar Government to decide when would the 33000 Meghawatts power generation in Barah region be made operational ? If this continues....

MR. SPEAKER : If you go on like this you would not get any reply. Please put your supplementary.

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA : If the Bihar Government makes an offer, would the Centre take the responsibility of running the Bihar Electricity Supply Board and bring it at par to the national level ?

SHRI KALP NATH RAI : Sir, this question does not relate to the main question.

MR. SPEAKER : You ask the question pointedly. Is there a proposal to construct a dam on Kosi and whether the Bihar Electricity Supply Board is being taken over ?

SHRI KALP NATH RAI : There is 44 per cent peak load shortage in Bihar whereas the plant load factor is 25 per cent. Power generation falls in the Central sector.... *(Interruptions)*. To augment power generation in Bihar an N.T.P.C. power station is under construction in Bihar. Recently, we approved the generation of 710 megawatts of hydro electricity. The Central Government is committed to increase power generation in the country, but it will not take over the Bihar Electricity Supply Board.

SHRI RAM LAKHAN SINGH YADAV : Mr. Speaker, Sir, when there was Congress Government in the State, the Hon. Minister had gone there and gave an assurance that Centre would provide all possible help to Bihar in augmenting power generation in the State. Recently he

said in a statement that power from Bihar's Rihand Dam is being supplied to Haryana and Punjab whereas Bihar is being deprived of it....

MR. SPEAKER : Yadavji, please put your question.

SHRI RAM LAKHAN SINGH YADAV : Keeping in view his assurance would he given priority to Bihar in so far as providing assistance to States is concerned. Would he provide power supply from Rihand Dam to Bihar besides Punjab and Haryana ?

MR. SPEAKER : He wants to ask whether the power being supplied to Punjab from Bihar, would be stopped.

SHRI KALP NATH RAI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the entire country has been divided in five zones—North, South, East, West and North Eastern. Bihar falls in the Eastern Zone. There is a proposal under consideration of the Central Government which is called Back to Back system which would enable transmitting power from Eastern Zone to North Eastern Zone. Secondly, about two months back 710 MW Hydro-electric power project has been approved by the Centre which would solve the peak load problem of Bihar.

SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH : Sir, the area of Nepal which is adjacent to the Bihar border has surplus electricity. One or two districts of Bihar are being supplied electricity from Nepal. May I know from the Hon. Minister whether more areas of Bihar and eastern Uttar Pradesh will be supplied electricity from Nepal ? Has the Government taken any initiative in this direction ? If so, what has been the outcome ?

SHRI KALP NATH RAI : Sir, the Kannali Dam, Pancheswari Dam and Kosi Dam will generate hydel power. These three dams have a generating capacity of 10,800 MW, 3000 MW and 2500 MW of power respectively. The Hon. Member has been a Minister in the Ministry of External Affairs and he knows that such a scheme cannot be started without an agreement

between India and Nepal. Sir, from the time of the late Shri Rajiv Gandhi the Government has been having a dialogue with Nepal. Teams of Engineers have been exchanged between the two countries. A feasibility report is being prepared and the World Bank is willing to provide financial assistance. Still, we cannot implement these hydel power projects unless there is an agreement between the two countries.

SHRI KARIYA MUNDA : Sir, the Hon. Minister said in his reply that in view of the power shortage in Bihar there is a proposal to go ahead with the Koel-Karo project with a generating capacity of 710 MW and having an estimated outlay of Rs. 1350 crores. May I know from the Hon. Minister as to when the Koel-Karo project will be started and the time by which it will be completed ?

SHRI KALP NATH RAI : Sir, the Koel-Karo project has got the techno-economic clearance, approval from the Planning Commission, clearance from the Ministry of Environment and Forests. Presently it is awaiting clearance of the P.I.B. and this should come through by next Thursday. Then it will be sent to the Cabinet for approval. The work on the project will start within one or two months.

SHRI RAM NIHOR RAI : Sir, the Rihand Multipurpose project is in the Mirzapur-Sonbhadra district of Uttar Pradesh. There are five thermal power stations and all the five are working. Had the Hon. Minister gone there to inaugurate the 20 MW thermal power station last year ?

I would like to know whether six thermal power plants are not enough to provide electricity to the local area which is still facing the shortage of power supply. Will the Hon. Minister give priority to Mirzapur and Sonbhadra districts for the supply of power or impress upon the Hon. Chief Minister to do the needful.... (Interruptions).

MR. SPEAKER : This is not relevant to the main question.

SHRI RAM NIHOR RAI : This matter concerns Uttar Pradesh..(Interruptions).

SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI : This is a very important matter.... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : The question is disallowed.

SUPPLY OF COAL TO THERMAL POWER STATIONS IN ANDHRA PRADESH

*209. **SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE :** Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Vijayawada Thermal Power Station and some other thermal power plants in Andhra Pradesh produced less power due to shortage of coal;

(b) if so, the estimated loss of power generation due to poor supply of coal at Kothagudem and Vijayawada Thermal Power Stations from January to June 1991; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to increase the output from Singareni Collieries to make available the coal as per linkages to the plants ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) Yes, Sir. As reported by Central Electricity Authority, the Vijayawada Thermal Power Station of Andhra Pradesh State Electricity Board and Ramagundam Super Thermal Power Station of National Thermal Power Corporation have suffered loss of generation for want of coal.

(b) As reported by Central Electricity Authority, Vijayawada Thermal Power Station suffered a loss of generation of about 389 million units during the period

January-June, 1991, and Kothagudem Thermal Power Station has reported a loss of about 36 million units during the same period because of short supply of coal.

(c) Singareni Collieries Company Ltd. (SCCL) is presently facing severe production problems due to adverse law and order situation in the area. However, the Govt. has taken steps to provide alternate sources of supply of coal to two of these thermal power stations, namely 1 lakh tonnes of coal per month to Vijayawada Thermal Power Station from South Eastern Coalfields Ltd. and 60,000 tonnes per month to Ramagundam Thermal Power Station from Western Coalfields Ltd. for the period ending September, 1991. A committee Under Secretary, Department of Power has been constituted to suggest measures to improve coal supplies to thermal power stations linked to SCCL.

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is most unfortunate that the Vijayawada Thermal Power Station which was having a plant load factor of more than 96 per cent and being one of the best run thermal power stations in this country on par with some other thermal power stations in the entire world, had to lose about 389 million units of power because of coal shortage. The Kothagudem Thermal Power Station also is making very good progress in recent times. I would like to know from the Hon. Minister whether the Government is taking adequate steps to take out coal from the Manuguru coal belt and also by investing more funds on the Singareni Collieries by utilising the latest technology and the latest machinery to have more coal from the Singareni Collieries. Now, the environment of Singareni Collieries is influenced with Naxalite activities. They are hampering the coal production there. So, I would also like to know from the Hon. Minister whether the Government of India will send the Central Industrial Security Force to Singareni Collieries, though it is a State managed concern, to curb these Naxalite activities and increase the coal production.

SHRI P. A. SANGMA : Sir, we have 30 new projects sanctioned under the